

The Hong Kong Daily Press

No. 664

星期六九十九年十一月十五日

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1st, 1889.

第十二月二十號

PRICE, ONE PENNY.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.
December 19, STATE OF MAINE, AM. Ship, 1,467, Nickels, New York 14th August, Petroleum—Glas, LIVINGSTON & Co.
December 20, CHINESE, Douglas brig, 251, Hanson, Donsel 5th December, Blackwood—SIEMENS & Co.
December 20, CHINESE, German steamer, 724, Christensen, Haiphong 17th December, Rice—SIEMENS & Co.
December 20, GENERAL WILHELM, German steamer, 1,320, Eichholz, Yokohama 16th December, Mats and General—MITSUBISHI & Co.
December 20, HAITIAN, British steamer, 1,189, S. Ashton, Foochow 17th December, Amoy 16th and Swatow 19th General—DOUGLAS LAFAIK & Co.
December 20, YEVSEN, Chinese steamer, 773, Blethen, Shanghai 16th December, Kerosine Oil—C. M. S. N. Co.
December 20, FUSHUN, Chinese steamer, 1,054, A. Croft, Shanghai 17th December, Godeval—C. M. S. N. Co.
December 20, OSAKA, British bark, 517 T. Jones, Albany 16th November, Sandwicks—ODER.
December 20, ZAPRO, British steamer, 725, Mc Cain, Manila 17th December, General—RUSSELL & Co.
December 20, PERNER, German steamer, 2,079 C. Pollo, Shanghai 16th December, Mail and General—MELCHERS & Co.
December 20, INDEPENDENT, German steamer, 871, W. J. Schaefer, Swatow 19th December, Ballast—GEO. R. STEVENS & Co.
December 20, YANGTZE, German steamer, 814, Tonnington, Whampoa 20th December, General—SIEMENS & Co.
December 20, VIFER, French gunboat, from a cruise.

CLEARANCES.

AT THE HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE.

20TH DECEMBER.

Kwang-lee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
Doris, German str., for Swatow.
Angas, Japanese str., for Nagasaki.
Aurine, German str., for Holloway.
Columbus, German ship, for London.
Mongkut, British str., for Bangkok.

DEPARTURES.

December 20, MARIS, German str., for Haiphong.

December 20, MOYOMOUTSHAN, British str., for London.

December 20, FALKENBURG, German str., for Saigon.

December 20, FEFFE, Danish str., for Haikow.

December 20, KWANG-LEE, Chinese steamer, for Shanghai.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Hera, str., from Haiphong—18 Chinese.
Per Haines, str., from Coast Ports—237 Chinese.

Per Zuoyu, str., from Manila—Mr. Vogt, 2 Europeans and 120 Chinese, cook.

Per General Werder, str., from Yokohama—Mrs. Sanford and servant, Capt. and Mrs. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Kirland, Misses Duncan and Williams, Mr. F. R. Gordon, T. Williams, Denton, Soltau, W. K. Berger, Lieut. Uxley, Lieut. von Thuneller, 4 Indians, and 50 Chinese.

Per Fisher, str., from Shanghai—Mrs. Crowley, 3 children, Mrs. Codd and 2 children, Capt. Robert Andrew, Messrs. Fenwick, Farrell and Dr. Macgown, and 200 Chinese.

Per Preussen, str., from Shanghai—Dr. and Mrs. Winn, Dr. Kimball, Messrs. Robertson, Mr. Moore, Mr. Bell, Mr. Landrich, A. Hoffman, and Camara, and 11 Chinese.

REPORTS.

The Chinese steamer *Fusien*, from Shanghai 17th December, reports had fine weather throughout and fresh N.E. winds from Tungyin to port.

The German steamer *Freuden*, from Shanghai 18th December, reports experienced during the passage fine weather with strong N.E. monsoon and heavy sea.

The Chinese steamer *Yehsin*, from Shanghai 16th December, reports had moderate to light N.E. winds and fine heavy weather throughout. Arrived and anchored in Deep Bay at 10 p.m. on the 16th.

The British steamer *Safra*, from Manila 17th December, reports first part of passage had light northerly winds with heavy swell from the same quarter, latter part strong monsoon with high seas and cloudy weather.

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The British steamer *Hestia*, from Foo

labels by the complainant, but they did not show anything of the sort, and it was then he followed. The defendant had his legal remedy at the time. Perhaps the first matter that had any bearing on the case was a paragraph which appeared in July, 1888, in which his lordship thought there was something amiss with the defendant's motion, since anything of that kind naturally touched him. But beyond perhaps a certain indirect bearing this was immaterial, and the importance of the case was confined to the action of Brandt v. Grimble, the article in the complainant's newspaper which followed that, and the letter which was the subject of the complaint. He did not know how the case of Brandt v. Grimble came before the jury, but it seemed to him there was not much in it to account for that article. It seemed that Grimble had \$3,000 which he kept in hand to cover expected losses on Brandt's share, and Brandt having another transaction with him for the end of the next month, wanted him to carry this loss over and settle them, but Grimble would not consent, and Brandt insisted on following his course, was perhaps his chief legal course, and taking on the shares, left them to be sold by Grimble, and commenced an action for the balance. That action was tried and the question between the parties appeared to be confined to whether the rate should be taken on the settling day or a few days afterwards; this depending on what the underwriters of the policy had said. His lordship's own opinion was that the article which appeared in complainant's paper did contain a direct personal attack on the character of Brandt and that the case of Brandt v. Grimble did not afford any justification or excuse for that attack. Proceeding to read the article, his lordship said that of course at one time contract was always more or less a binding contract, and he would not advise the court to accept it as evidence, but that it was open to the court to take into consideration the fact that expression. The wording of the article was the allegation that Brandt bought the shares he had not the room or chance of taking them up unless the price rose. A man who did that would be fairly comparable to a washerwoman who had \$3,000 in hand, and he would ask the court whether they thought from the facts proved in the case of Brandt v. Grimble, that Brandt had no more right to do so than he had to that expression. The wording of the article was the allegation that Brandt bought the shares he had not the room or chance of taking them up unless the price rose.

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The jury found by a majority of five to two that the letter was written without malice; by a majority of four to three that it was true in substance and in fact; by a majority of four to three that publication was justifiable; and unani-

mous that publication was not for the public benefit.

His lordship said that on the first finding he would enter a verdict of not guilty and the defendant would be discharged. He asked the Counsel for the prosecution whether he desired a verdict or not on the second question.

Mr. Phillips replied in the affirmative.

His lordship said in that case he thought there must be a finding in favor of the prosecution because the whole plan had not been established.

Mr. Phillips.—As the plea of justification is not upheld will your lordship give costs?

His lordship said the costs were dealt with by the Ordinance, but he thought the prosecution were entitled to recover costs on the plea of justification, which would not amount to much.

Mr. Brandt said he thought he was entitled to his costs.

His lordship—Yes, I think you are entitled to the general costs.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE, ACTING JUDGE.

EDWARDS v. BERKELEY.

This was a claim for \$163 for board and lodgings and money lent by complainant to defend as a member of the Public Works Department.

Mrs. D. Boddy was for the plaintiff; the defendant did not appear.

The plaintiff had proved his claim judgment was given in his behalf.

W. WEBER v. CHINESE.

Mr. Weber appeared for the plaintiff, who claimed \$12,725 for goods sold and delivered.

Judgment for the plaintiff with costs.

RATIFICATION OF THE "CHEROO TELEGRAPH CONVENTION."

THE TSUNG-LI YAMEN'S ANSWER TO COL. DENBY.

The Shanghai Mercury says—We are at last in position to communicate authoritatively on the above much discussed subject. Tsung-Li Yamen has officially informed Col. Denby, the British Minister at Peking, that the arrangement entered into between Sheng Taotai on behalf of the Chinese Telegraph Administration, and Messrs. Judd and Henningson for the Eastern Extension and Great Northern Telegraph Companies respectively, has been ratified by the Yamen. They have informed Col. Denby that the information was well received, and they are a neat port to the communication, and the fact that it was customary for the proprietors, and their customers, should fix tariffs. So much for the Yamen's message. The much abased instrument has at last been ratified and Mr. Judd is by this time well on his way to England, with a copy of the ratified agreement in his pocket to be delivered to his headquarters in London. Now as to the nature of the agreement itself. We are glad to be able to dispel some erroneous impressions, widely believed, regarding its object and scope. First of all, we think there was a slight mistake in the title by which the agreement between the companies was generally known, for it was dignifying it a little too much as a "Convention," inasmuch as it was a mere arrangement between three public business companies to merge and consolidate their position in this part of the world, and was not negotiated by diplomats on behalf of the three nations, but by business men acting in the interests of the companies they represented. In this respect it could hardly be any more entitled to the term "Convention" than could the agreement between the local steamship companies for the purpose of protecting themselves against competition from others, who might be inclined to exploit the local waters.

We have not yet seen a copy of the agreement which has just been endorsed by the Chinese Government, and which we, in the interests of foreign residents in China, and of people at home who have commercial relations with that country, have at long last reluctantly opposed. We hope, however, in a short time to lay before our readers the text of the famous agreement, which there can be no objection to publishing as it is an act of reciprocity.

But we are agreeably surprised to learn, as do upon an entirely reliable authority, that one of the immediate results of the ratification of the agreement will be the lowering of the rates of telegraphing from all parts of China to Europe, to a maximum figure of \$2 per word. This, of course, will make a change in the rate from Hongkong, Amoy, Foochow, and Ningpo, at each of which places the rate is now \$2 per word. But at all the other ports and inland stations the reduction will make a very material difference in the cost of telegraphing. At present the rate from Peking is \$2.40 a word; Chefoo and Tientsin \$2.30; from Hankow, \$2.35; Ichang, \$2.32; Fuhchow, \$2.45; Swatow, \$2.34; but if the new rates of these places will be reduced to \$2 a word, we make a material difference in favor of our customers. Neither Shanghai, Foochow, nor Amoy, however, are so far, but we are assured that it is intended in a little time, the rate from each of these places will also be reduced, by degrees, and that we may look for a \$1.50 rate. All this, while it is attractive, is reassuring, though we should like to see the ports which are the chief seats of telegraphic business derive a little more tangible advantage along with the other places. The agreement is given in Chinese Telegraph Administrations, the receipts from all the other ports and inland stations, while the two foreign companies take Shanghai, Amoy, and Foochow for their share, each company transmitting the messages of the other company and lines or cables free of charge. We are assured that there is no mention of assembly by the Northern and Southern Extension Cos. to the Chinese Company, in the agreement, which is to run for fourteen years from the time it was drawn up, some two years ago. And we are further informed that there is nothing in it

PIRACY IN CANTON WATERS.

The Daily News translates the following memorial from the Peking Gazette of Saturday, November 23.

The Victoroy at Canton requests that a scale may be established permitting exceptional and not-morally-ordinary rewards, to be conferred on officers who distinguish themselves by capturing or killing robbers and pirates in the waters of the Yangtze River.

That the above is a bare outline of the celebrated "Convention," but it gives the main features of the instrument, which has been ratified despite the most strenuous efforts of the foreign commercial communities of China.

THE CHINA COAST METEOROLOGICAL REGISTRATION.

The Daily News translates the following memorial from the Peking Gazette of Saturday, November 23.

The Victoroy at Canton requests that a scale may be established permitting exceptional and not-morally-ordinary rewards, to be conferred on officers who distinguish themselves by capturing or killing robbers and pirates in the waters of the Yangtze River.

The memorial asserts that his great difficulty in dealing with pirates arises from the fact that the pirates obtain their supplies from the coast, and that it is claimed by the Board of Admiralty that the same ought only to be granted to officers who distinguished themselves in capturing pirates.

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THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HAMBURG.

The Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to ACCEPT MARINE RISKS at Current Rates.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO., Hongkong, 17th December, 1889.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED.

The Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to GRANT INSURANCES to the extent of \$100,000, on first-class risks at current rates.

DUNN, MELHIEY & CO., Hongkong, 16th February, 1889.

NOTICE.

THE QUEEN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Undersigned Agents for the above Company, are prepared to ACCEPT RISKS against FIRE at Current Rates.

NORTON & CO., Agents, Hongkong, 16th July, 1889.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED.

The Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to ACCEPT RISKS against FIRE at Current Rates.

SIEGMESSEN & CO., Agents, Hongkong, 16th December, 1889.

THE CHINA LIFE AND FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY IN LONDON.

The Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to ACCEPT RISKS against FIRE and LIFE at Current Rates.

REUTER, BROCKELMANN & CO., Agents, Hongkong, 1st July, 1889.

THE MAN OF INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED.

The Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to ACCEPT RISKS against FIRE at Current Rates.

REUTER, BROCKELMANN & CO., Agents, Hongkong, 16th November, 1889.

THE CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY LIMITED.

The Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to ACCEPT RISKS against FIRE at Current Rates.

ADAMSON, BELL & CO., Agents, Hongkong, 14th December, 1889.

THE CHINA BANKING CORPORATION.

The Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to ACCEPT RISKS against FIRE at Current Rates.

ADAMSON, BELL & CO., Agents, Hongkong, 1st January, 1890.

NOTICE OF FIRMS.

WE Have This Day Established a Branch of our Firm in SINGAPORE, as SHARE AND GENERAL BROKERS, AND COMMISSION AGENTS.

APCAR BROTHERS, Hongkong, 25th October, 1889.

JUST ARRIVED AND FOR SALE.

SUPERIOR ENGLISH DOUBLE BARRELLED BRECH LOADING GUNS.

12 Bore, Central Fire, Top Lever-in Box, with everything Complete, Price \$45 only.

Also, GEMAR GUNS in Boxes, Complete with Mechanical Targets.

J. F. SCHEFFER, 77, Wyndham Street, Hongkong, 20th November, 1889.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned begs to inform the Public that he has now opened a PRIVATE BOARDING RESIDENCE on Kulanuan, AMOY.

First Class Accommodation for Travellers and Families.

On Moderate Terms.

CART. J. E. THOMSEN, 12-2544

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

THIS Company is now prepared to Supply Best Quality PORTLAND CEMENT.

J. F. BOEMAN, Secretary.

Watson & Co. A. S., Agents.

Hongkong, 4th December, 1889.

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Watson & Co. A. S., Agents.

Hongkong, 4th December, 1889.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned begs to inform the Public that he has now opened a PRIVATE BOARDING RESIDENCE on Kulanuan, AMOY.

First Class Accommodation for Travellers and Families.

On Moderate Terms.

CART. J. E. THOMSEN, 12-2544

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

THIS Company is now prepared to Supply Best

